

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 01672 070729Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 EB-11

COME-00 INT-08 TRSE-00 SCEM-02 DRC-01 /107 W

----- 060884

R 062044Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6441

INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 1672

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, BB

SUBJ: ENERGY CRISIS CONTINUES

REF: BRIDGETOWN A-216 OF 11/28/73

1. ENERGY CRISIS CONTINUES TO INCONVENIENCE RESIDENTS OF BARBADOS WITH GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL SHORTAGES AND CONTINUOUS EXHORTATIONS FROM GOVERNMENT TO CUT ENERGY CONSUMPTION. THUS FAR, HOWEVER, NO MAJOR IMPACT ON ECONOMY IS SEEN.

2. ACTING PRIME MINISTER REVEALED DEC 4 THAT SPECIAL CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE HAD BEEN FORMED TO DEAL WITH CRISIS AND WARNED THAT GOB MIGHT BE FORCED TO REDUCE WATER SERVICES IF VOLUNTARY CUTBACKS UNSUCCESSFUL. (WATER DISTRIBUTION RELIES ON DIESEL-GENERATED ELECTRICITY). OPPOSITION CRITICIZED GOVERNMENT FOR PERMITTING "FOREIGN MONOPOLY" (MOBIL) OPERATE ISLAND'S ONLY REFINERY AND URGED ORDERLY DISTRIBUTION OF FUEL SUPPLIES BY GOVERNMENT.

3. LAST FEW DAYS HAVE SEEN EASING OF SOME RESTRICTIONS MENTIONED IN REFERENCE, INCLUDING RESTORATION OF BUS SERVICE TO NEAR-NORMAL AND RESUMPTION OF ALL SCHOOLS. GOVERNMENT ACTION IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SETTING UP SRSIAL AFTERNOON GAS DISTRIBUTION HOURS FOR

SMALL COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (TAXIS, MINI-BUSES) HAS DIMINISHED
UNMANAGEABLE LINES PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED AT GASOLINE STATIONS.

4. ALTHOUGH SUPPLIES REMAIN TIGHTON IMPRESSION HERE IS THAT
AT LEAST PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF CRISIS HAVE EASED OVER
PAST FEW DAYS AND THAT PEOPLE ARE LEARNING TO LIVE WITH
RESTRICTIONS.

5. SITUATION IN SOME OF SMALLER ISLANDS IS REPORTED TO BE
FAR MORE SERIOUS. MONTSERRAT REPORTEDLY INTRODUCED GASOLINE
RATIONING SOME DAYS AGO AND DOMINICA AND GRENADA ARE REPORTED
TO BE SERIOUSLY SHORT OF FUEL.
DONOVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FUEL OIL, WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, PETROLEUM REFINING, RESERVE SHORTAGE, RATIONING
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
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